



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 3, 2005

H.R. 426 **Remote-Sensing Applications Act of 2005**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on May 17, 2005

SUMMARY

H.R. 426 would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million a year over the 2006-2010 period for a new program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to encourage the use of geospatial and remote-sensing data by state, local, and tribal governments. The bill would authorize grants to demonstrate how such data could be used for land-use planning, environmental impact evaluation, and other policy analysis. In addition, the bill would require NASA to establish an advisory committee to monitor the program and an educational outreach program to promote remote-sensing applications.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost about \$60 million over the 2006-2010 period. Enacting H.R. 426 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 426 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA); any costs to state, local, or tribal governments would result from complying with conditions of federal assistance.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 426 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized will be appropriated near the beginning of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow historical patterns for such activities. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 250 (general science, space, and technology).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level	15	15	15	15	15
Estimated Outlays	4	11	14	15	15

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 426 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined by UMRA. The bill would benefit eligible state, local, and tribal governments by authorizing \$15 million per year, for fiscal years 2006 through 2010, for them to apply remote-sensing and other geospatial information technologies for growth management. Any costs they incur would result from complying with conditions of federal assistance.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Mike Waters

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Lisa Ramirez-Branum

Impact on the Private Sector: Jean Talarico

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis